SECOND COMING

NEW MUTANTS®

ZEB WELLS ✕ IBRAIM R

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CHAPTER 03

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Previously...

With the members of their race slowly dying out and no new mutants being born, mutantkind was on the brink of extinction. In need of a miracle, the X-Men were elated when one came in the form of Hope—a newborn mutant who held the promise of repopulation. Under attack by those who would see mutantkind extinguished, the X-Men sent the infant into the future with one of their own, Cable, to be raised under his protection and one day return to the present.

Today is that day. Cable and Hope have returned to the present. But the X-Men were not the only ones awaiting their return: Bastion, a super-Sentinel from the future hellbent on exterminating all mutants, has rallied anti-mutant forces to kill Hope and seal mutantkind's fate. And now, they are in pursuit of the time-tossed pair.

Learning of Cable and Hope's return, Cyclops sends a team of X-Men to locate them and safely escort them to the X-Men's island home, Utopia. When they finally catch up to Cable and Hope, the X-Men find them fighting for their lives, cornered by Bastion's lieutenant William Stryker and his heavily armed squad of Purifiers.

Meanwhile, Cyclops deploys the New Mutants to shut down a weapons-manufacturing facility run by another of Bastion's subordinates: Cameron Hodge.

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GET YOUR FACES ON, LADIES! WE'RE MOVING OUT!

READY POSITIONS IN FIVE! GO! GO!

I'M GONNA BAG A BIG ONE... A TEN-POINT MUTIE.

SOMETHING'S HAPPENING. THEY'RE GEARING UP...

HEY MAN, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

WHA- WHAT?

I...I WAS JUST SAYING A PRAYER FOR YOUR DUMB ASS, MY MAN.

HA! DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY MUTANTS ARE LEFT ON THE PLANET? *SAVE* YOUR PRAYERS...

WE'VE GOT THEM OUTNUMBERED.

THE EXTINCTION OF THE MUTANT RACE LIES BEFORE YOU! SEIZE IT!

MY GOD...

I KNOW!

...THERE'S HUNDREDS OF THEM. CAMERON HODGE HAS AN ARMY.

HUNDREDS? AND WE'RE SUPPOSED TO ATTACK *THEM?*

SAM, ARE YOU SURE THIS IS A GOOD IDEA?

CYCLOPS DIDN'T ASK ME. HE GAVE ME AN *ORDER.*

I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN I GET ANOTHER ONE.

MAGIK. GET THE KID OUT OF HERE.

DA.

TELEPORTERS.

CONTINGENCY 23-C. RUN IT.

YOU HEARD THE MAN! LET'S GO!

TARGET "WHITE DEVIL" IS YOUR PRIMARY! FIRE WHEN READY!

AMMO?

MAG AND A HALF.

HOPE...

COME WITH ME.

THOOM!

DIRECT HIT, SIR.

NOW WE SEE IF THE WEAPONIZED RITUAL IS WORTH WHAT WE PAID.

BLOOD OF ELZEBUS... PARCHMENT OF SOULS...

NO...

MMMMMMMM!

ILLYANA!

@#$%! WHAT HAPPENED TO MAGIK?! KURT--

I'M ON MY WAY.

WHITE DEVIL IS DOWN. BLUE DEVIL IS YOUR PRIMARY.

PERCEPTION CONCUSSORS! FIRE WHEN READY!

BOOM

BOOM

BAM!

BOOM!

MEIN GOTT... THE WORLD'S GONE LIQUID.

NATHAN...

THEY'RE PREPARED FOR US. WE'VE GOT TO CUT OFF THEIR HEAD.

STRYKER.

BLUE DEVIL IS GROUNDED. MOVE UP TO THE GIRL.

FORMATION GAMMA! MOVE, PEOPLE!

GYAARGGHH!!

WHAT DID YOU DO TO HER?!

THE X-MEN ARE BREAKING OUR LINES. I NEED REINFORCEMENTS.

CYCLOPS!

GO AHEAD, CANNONBALL.

DOUG'S PICKED UP AN INCOMING TRANSMISSION-- THE RIGHT HAS JUST BEEN ORDERED TO JOIN THE PURIFIERS AT ALPHA TEAM'S POSITION.

LOGAN, IS HOPE SECURED?

NEGATIVE, SLIM. OUR LOCATION IS HOT AND CABLE'S RUNNING.

NEIN...

WE'RE JUST LEAVING THEM?

THEY'RE NOT SAFE. SOMETHING'S WRONG.

CANNONBALL, IF STRYKER GETS REINFORCEMENTS WE'RE GOING TO LOSE THE GIRL. ENGAGE YOUR TARGETS.

CYCLOPS, I'M NOT CONFIDENT I CAN ENGAGE WITHOUT CASUALTIES. IF IT'S MY DECISION--

IT'S NOT. YOU HAVE AN ORDER.

THAT'S ALL I NEEDED TO HEAR.

BETA TEAM ENGAGING. OVER.

WE'RE GOING IN.

ARE YOU CRAZY? THERE'S--

NOT NOW, BOBBY.

YOU TWO, GATHER AS MUCH INTEL AS YOU CAN AND MAKE SURE IT GETS BACK TO UTOPIA.

DO NOT JOIN THE HOSTILITIES UNLESS NECESSARY.

OUR ORDERS ARE TO HOLD THEM HERE. IT'S GOING TO BE US OR THEM. DO WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.

KARMA, YOU MAKE THE FIRST MOVE.

COPY.

COPY.

WHAT?

BLAM!

BUDDABUDDABUDDABUDDA!

BUDDABUDDABUDDABUDDA!

AIIEEEEEEEEE!

SHAN!

NO, DANI. I'M HERE...

PUT THIS ON...I'VE GOT TO KEEP JUMPING.

THANKS, SHAN.

WHAT?

BAM!

BASTION WILL NOT ACCEPT A DELAY. I WAS HOPING THIS WOULD HAPPEN...

SIR?

NOW I CAN JUSTIFY *THIS.*

PASSWORD ACCEPTED. INITIATING CRANIAL TRANSPLANT.

KEEP PUSHING THEM BACK!

DAMMIT, SAM...LOOK AT *HODGE!*

OH MY GOD...

OH, COME NOW, SOLDIER...

CLIK

GROW A PAIR.

WARREN, WE NEED TO END THIS. FAST.

HOW FAST?

TELL THE OTHERS TO STAY LOW.

HOLD THEM, BROTHERS!

FOR THE CAUSE!

PFT

PFT

PFT

PFT

PFT

PFT

PFT

PFT

PFT

PFT

PFT

PFT

PFT

PFT

PFT

HOLD--
GYARRRGH!
SHK
BASTION...
HELP ME...
WARREN, NO!!
SKRRRRRRT!

WARREN?

THE PURIFIERS ARE DOWN, CYCLOPS. CABLE'S CLOSE BUT WE'VE LOST OUR PRIME TELEPORTER.

I KNOW.

ARIEL IS YOUR NEW PRIME.

HOPE IS CLOSE AND CANNONBALL'S TEAM IS FIGHTING FOR EVERY SECOND YOU HAVE TO LOOK FOR HER.

MIGHT BE HARD TO SELL PETER ON THAT.

EMMA WILL DO THAT FROM HERE.

WE WEREN'T IN THAT ROOM THIRTY MINUTES.

WHATEVER TRAIL WE LEFT SHOULD HAVE BEEN HARD ENOUGH FOR *CYCLOPS* TO FIND...THERE'S NO WAY BASTION PICKED IT UP THAT FAST.

THEY'RE TRACKING US.

BUT WE WERE LOOKING FOR THE X-MEN... THEY FOUND US.

BASTION FOUND US FIRST. UNACCEPTABLE. HE COULD HAVE A MAN ON THE INSIDE.

THIRTY MINUTES. I'M NOT SEEING SOMETHING.

WE'VE GOT TO GO COMPLETELY DARK...WE DON'T EVEN COME UP FOR AIR.

NO MORE HOTELS.

THE ELECTRO-NEURON FLOW OF DONALD PIERCE SEEMS TO BE EXCITED--

SHAW, S.

PIERCE, D.

GREYCROW, J.

...BUT HOTELS ARE NICE...SOFT, WARM AND NEW.

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

I DON'T KNOW, I--

DANGER, I'M SORRY...I'VE GOT TO TALK TO CYCLOPS.

SHAW, S.

GREYCROW

THAT IS FINE, ROGUE.

PIERCE, D.

I HAVE THIS UNDER CONTROL.

WATCH IT, BOBBY!

HUMFF!

KARMA, WE'RE IN TROUBLE...CAN YOU GET A LOCK ON THIS THING?

I'M ON IT.

GOT HIM...

FOREIGN CONTROL/MIND DETECTED.

ACQUIRING SOURCE...

HE'S FOUND ME...

PREPARE TO NEUTRALIZE.

NO...

ARRRRRRRGHH!!

TO BE CONTINUED IN
X-MEN: LEGACY #235!

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ZOMBIE